

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/650,531
Reply to Office Action Dated March 16, 2005

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and following remarks. Claims 1-31 have been amended editorially. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-31 are pending.

Claim 5 is objected to as informal. Claims 1-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Jaeb et al. (US 2002/0003095). Applicants respectfully traverse this objection and rejection.

Claim Objection

Claim 5 is objected to because it contained the phrase "the security member". As suggested by the Examiner, the phrase "the security member", has been changed to --second security member--. Applicants assert that the objection has been overcome and respectfully request that this objection be withdrawn.

Claim rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Jaeb et al. (US 2002/0003095). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 1-22

Claim 1 recites the latch is integrally formed as a portion of the lock slide.

The recited security device provides advantages over Jaeb et al. For example, fewer parts are included in the security device. This saves time and cost both in production and in assembly. Furthermore, a reduced amount of parts provides for a more reliable product as the possible sources of failure are significantly decreased.

Moreover, claim 1 recites *inter alia*, that the latch is integrally formed as a portion of the lock side. Conversely, Jaeb teaches the locking member 72 is separate from the lock slide 18. Furthermore, Jaeb teaches the locking member 72 is attached to the top wall of the base member

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12 by a connector. *See Figures 11 and 14.* Figure 11 depicts the locking member 72 in the unlocked position, i.e. in a position where the locking member 72 is not engaged with the locking channel 70 of the lock slide 18. Whereas, Figure 18 shows the locking member 72 in the locked position, i.e. the locking member 72 is engaged with the locking channel 70 of the lock slide 18. Additionally, Figures 11 and 14 clearly indicate different materials are used for the base member 12, the lock slide 18 and the locking member 72, since the Figures illustrate different cross-hatchings for each element, so that the latch and the lock slide are clearly not integral.

Therefore, Jaeb fails to teach or suggest the latch is integrally formed as a portion of the lock slide.

For at least the reasons discussed above, Jaeb fails to anticipate claim 1 or render the limitations of claim 1 obvious. Therefore, withdrawal of this rejection with regard to independent claim 1, as well as claims 2-22 that depend therefrom, is respectfully requested.

Claims 23-31

Claim 23 recites the latch is devised to engage with a stop member arranged on the second security member in the locked position.

Claim 23 recites, *inter alia*, a stop member on the second security member and the latch is configured to engage the stop member in the locked position. This provides a more reliable security device than the prior art.

As presented above, Jaeb teaches the locking member 72 engages the locking channel 70 of the lock slide 18 in the locked position. Jaeb fails to teach or suggest the latch is devised to engage with a stop member arranged on the second security member in the locked position.

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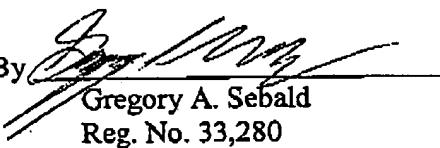
For at least the reasons discussed above, Jaeb fails to anticipate claim 23 or render the features of claim 23 obvious. Therefore, withdrawal of this rejection with regard to independent claim 23, as well as claims 24-31 that depend therefrom, is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the above, favorable reconsideration in the form of a notice of allowance is requested. Any questions regarding this communication can be directed to the undersigned attorney, Gregory A. Sebald, Reg. No. 33,280, at (612) 336.4728.

Respectfully submitted,

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GAS:smm